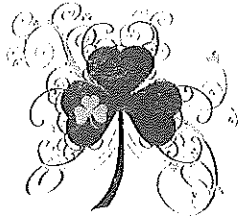


Reedsburg United Methodist Church

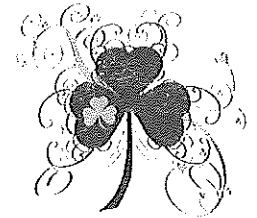
833 Third Street  
Reedsburg, WI 53959

Phone: 608-524-3913

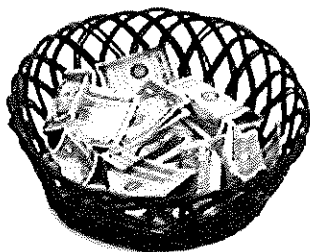
Email: RUMC53959@gmail.com



# March Newsletter



## 4 WAYS TO GIVE TO REEDSBURG UM CHURCH



IN PERSON BY  
CASH OR CHECK



BY MAIL



ON LINE BY EFT  
(ONE TIME OR ONGOING)



TEXTING VANCO

## Webb Care Closet

Help needed to prepare for clothing distribution during parent-teacher conferences at middle school

Contact Kathy Jennings or Gwen Biesek to volunteer

## Sleeping Mat Competition

Watch for team sign up and help us race to complete 2 sleeping mats next month!

We will have 2 looms set up and team members can come and weave for the WIN!

## Mission Team meeting

Monday, March 3 at 11am in The Well. All welcome!

## New 2025 Church Goals

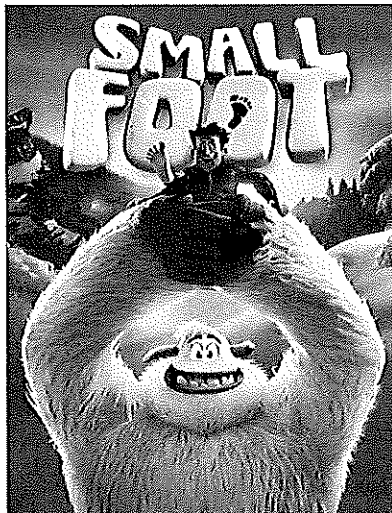
Based on feedback from our recent congregational survey and a prayerful Servant Leadership Board planning retreat in September, a new set of church goals has been chosen. We will aim to implement and incorporate these core values in our church ministries in the coming year. They are:

**Relational Connections:** To create opportunities for intergenerational relationships through activities, worship, and ministries that purposefully connect different generations in our church and community to make disciples of Jesus Christ.

**Outward Focus:** Create a culture of outward focus beyond the walls of the church that nurtures relationships with our neighbors and guests.

**Energizing Congregational Participation:** Creating ways the congregation can actively participate in worship and ministries both within the church and in our community.

*Please share your thoughts and ideas with any member of the Servant Leadership Board as with God's help we strive to make these visions a reality in the coming year.*



## Movies with a Message

## SMALL FOOT

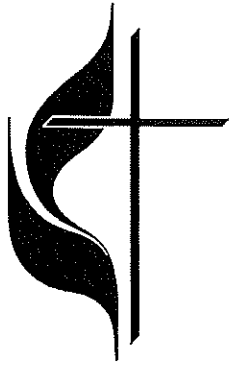
Next Showing: Sunday, March 2 in youth room.

Time: 10:30am after worship

Animated film for all ages turns the Bigfoot legend upside down!

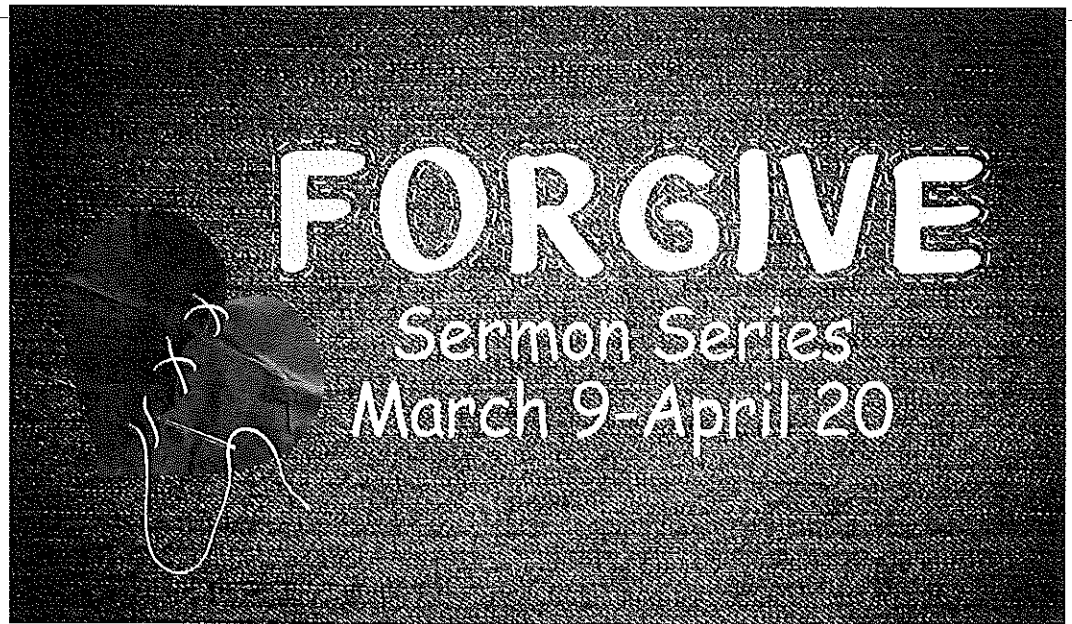
Popcorn and drinks provided.

Invite family, friends and neighbors to join us.



REEDSBURG United Methodist Church

The U.M.C. News



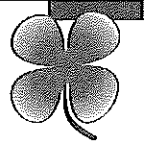
This Lent, join us for our powerful sermon series, *FORGIVE*, as we explore the transformative power of forgiveness in our lives. Through scripture, reflection, and the example of Christ, we will journey together to understand why forgiveness is essential—not just for those we forgive, but for our own spiritual growth and healing. Whether you struggle with forgiving others, accepting forgiveness yourself, or simply want to deepen your faith this season, this series will offer hope, renewal, and a path toward the freedom that comes with grace. Don't miss this opportunity to draw closer to God and experience the life-changing impact of true forgiveness.

This sermon series will be available live and in person, Sundays at 9:00 am at 833 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, here in Reedsburg, and will also be available Tuesdays at 3:30 pm on Reedsburg TV Station channel 11.1. A partial recording of the live services will also be released on YouTube Sundays later in the day. If you do not have access to any of these worship platforms, you may request a hard copy of the sermon manuscript by calling the church office at 608-524-3913. A downloadable manuscript is also available from our website [reedsburgunitedmethodistchurch.org](http://reedsburgunitedmethodistchurch.org).

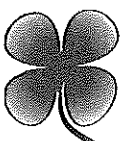
**Come! And recommend the RUMC to a friend!**



# March Events



<b>DATE</b>		<b>TIME</b>	<b>EVENT</b>
March 2	Sunday	9:00 am	Woship (in person) communion
		10:30 am	Smallfoot movie in youth room (open to public)
March 4	Tuesday	12:00 pm	Chair Yoga, Room 106 (no reservation & no cost)
		3:30 pm	Worship on RUCLS TV station 11.1
March 5	Wednes- day	10:00am	Colors of Hope (zoom meeting)
		6:30 pm	Youth group (k-12) meal provided at 6:00pm
March 6	Thursday	12:00 pm	Chair Yoga, Room 106 (no reservation & no cost)
March 9	Sunday	9:00am	Worship in person
		10:15 am	Confirmation (in the library)
		Afternoon	Worship on YouTube
March 11	Tuesday	12:00 pm	Chair Yoga, ROOM 106 (no reservations & no cost)
March 12	Wednes- day	10:00am	Colors of Hope (zoom meeting)
		6:30pm	Youth group (k-12) meal provided at 6:00pm
March 13	Thursday	12:00 pm	Chair Yoga, ROOM 106 (no reservations & no cost)
March 16	Sunday	9:00am	Worship in person
		Afternoon	Worship on YouTube
March 17	Monday	6:30 pm	Servant leadership board meeting
		ALL DAY	St. Patrick's Day
March 18	Tuesday	12:00 pm	Chair Yoga, ROOM 106 (no reservations & no cost)
March 19	Wednes-	6:30pm	Youth group (k-12) meal provided at 6:00pm
March 20	Thursday	12:00 pm	Chair Yoga, Room 106 (no reservation & no cost)
March 23	Sunday	9:00 am	Worship in person
		Afternoon	Worship on YouTube
March 25	Tuesday	12:00 pm	Chair Yoga, Room 106 (no reservation & no cost)
		3:30 pm	Worship on RUCLS TV station 11.1
March 26	Wednes-	6:30pm	Youth group (k-12) meal provided at 6:00pm
March 27	Thursday	12:00 pm	Chair Yoga, ROOM 106 (no reservations needed & no





Throughout Luke's Gospel, Jesus shared meals that were more than just food—they were moments of grace, teaching, and transformation. From sinners to disciples, strangers to friends, all were welcomed at his table. Join us for the mid-week Lenten Sermon Series, Meeting Jesus at the Table, where we will walk through these sacred meals, discovering how Christ still invites us to the table, offering love, forgiveness, and a deeper relationship with him.

## SPECIAL LENTEN SERVICES SCHEDULE

Ash Wednesday, March 5, meal at 6, service at 6:30  
 Lenten Service, March 12, meal at 6, service at 6:30  
 Lenten Service, March 19, meal at 6, service at 6:30  
 Lenten Service, March 26, meal at 6, service at 6:30  
 Lenten Service, April 2, meal at 6, service at 6:30  
 Lenten Service, April 9, meal at 6, service at 6:30  
 Maundy Thursday Service April 17, 7:30  
 Ecumenical Good Friday Service 12:00 pm\*

\* Good Friday location yet to be determined

**Pastor Vicki Brantmeyer**

Office: 608-524-3913  
 Cell: 608-289-9739  
 Parsonage: 608-524-4485  
 rumc@rucls.net

**Mary Beth Shear**

Servant Coordinator  
 Deaconmarybeth833@gmail.com

**Laurie Osborne**

Christian Education  
 Coordinator  
 rumcdce@rucls.net

**Michelle Siedschlag**

Youth Coordinator  
 rumcyc@rucls.net

**Kaitlin Yonke**

Administrative Assistant  
 RUMC53959@gmail.com

**Shelby Lange**

Treasurer  
 rumctreasurer@rucls.net

**Financial Secretary:**

Jennifer Moore

### 2025 SERVANT LEADERSHIP BOARD

**Chair:**

John Deitrich

**Secretary:**

Kathy Bodmer

**Finance Co-Chairs:**

Cheryl Rhinehart & Becky Knoll

**Staff Relations Co-Chairs:**

Ann Deitrich & Pat Jaquish

**Trustees Co-Chairs:**

Tina Straw & Ellen Penshorn

**Lay Rep to Annual  
Conference:**

Ellen Penshorn

**Members at Large:**

Mason Siedschlag

**A Message From Pastor Vicki****March 2025**

Last week, our confirmation students explored the core beliefs shared across Christian denominations and those that are uniquely Methodist. One of the fundamental beliefs we share with all Christians, including United Methodists, is the authority of Scripture—the conviction that the Bible is divinely inspired and serves as our ultimate guide for faith, doctrine, and Christian living.

However, while many uphold the authority of Scripture, I often hear “Bible verses” and “Christian concepts” that are widely quoted yet not actually biblical. Some examples include:

- **“Money is the root of all evil.”** This is a misquote of 1 Timothy 6:10, which actually says, “The love of money is the root of all kinds of evil.” The difference is significant.
- **“Love the sinner, hate the sin.”** While this phrase is often attributed to Scripture, it actually originates from the 5th-century theologian Augustine.

**“Give a person a fish, and they eat for a day. Teach them to fish, and they will eat for a lifetime.”** While this sounds parabolic, it is not found in the Bible, nor does it accurately reflect biblical teachings on generosity and provision.

Understanding Scripture can be challenging, especially when misconceptions and half-truths are so prevalent. Here are a few simple ways to engage Scripture with clarity:

**Verify the source.** If someone claims a phrase is biblical, check if it actually appears in Scripture.

**Read in context.** Even if a phrase comes from the Bible, read the surrounding verses to understand its full meaning.

**Apply the Wesleyan Quadrilateral.** As United Methodists, we interpret Scripture through the lenses of **tradition, reason, and experience**, recognizing that biblical texts were written in a different time and culture.

While we affirm the Bible as the inspired word of God, we also acknowledge that it was recorded by human authors with limited knowledge of the world. That’s why responsible interpretation is so important—especially when new “Christian” ideas emerge that contradict Jesus’ teachings.

For example, I recently heard a claim that our love should be prioritized in this order: first family, then neighbors, then community, then fellow citizens, and finally, the rest of the world. However, this contradicts Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount:

Continued from page 6

“I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who harass you, so that you will be acting as children of your Father who is in heaven... If you love only those who love you, what reward do you have? Don’t even tax collectors do the same? ... Therefore, just as your heavenly Father is complete in showing love to everyone, so also you must be complete.” (Matthew 5:44-48)

Luke’s Gospel takes it even further when Jesus says, “Whoever comes to me and doesn’t hate father and mother, spouse and children, and brothers and sisters—yes, even one’s own life—cannot be my disciple.” (Luke 14:26). This isn’t about devaluing family; rather, it’s about putting God first. And how do we put God first? By loving our neighbors—like the Good Samaritan did (Luke 10:25-37).

So, let us return to Scripture—not just to affirm what we already believe but to be shaped by what Jesus actually teaches: “the one who demonstrated mercy... go and do like wise.” (Luke 10:37)

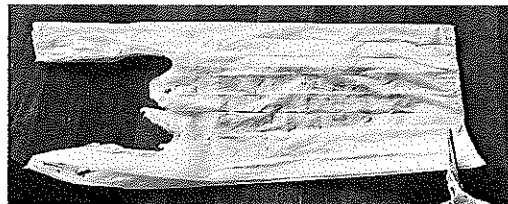
**Mission Statement:**

“To make new and renewed disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”

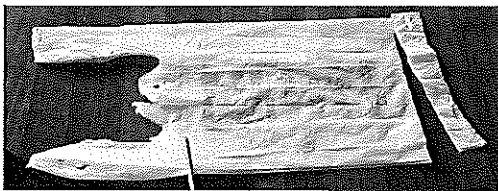
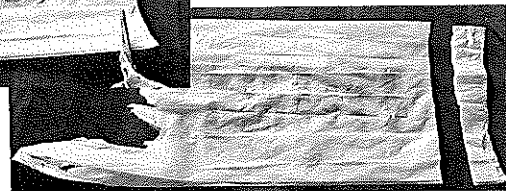
**Our Vision:**

“To build a Christian community where we become deeply committed followers of the Lord Jesus Christ who know God with

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR CUTTING PLASTIC BANDS FOR SLEEPING MATS**




CUT OFF THE BOTTOM OF THE BAG



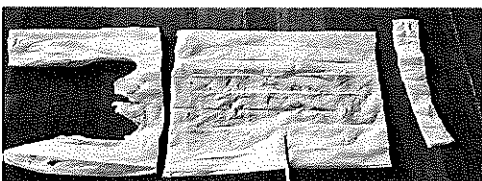
CUT OFF THE TOP OF THE BAG



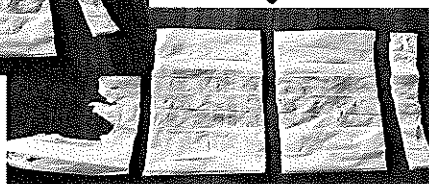
VOILA! TWO PLASTIC BANDS READY TO BE MADE INTO PLARN



MAKE INTO PLARN AND/OR TAKE THEM TO THE CHURCH



CUT DOWN THE MIDDLE OF THE REMAINING BODY OF THE BAG





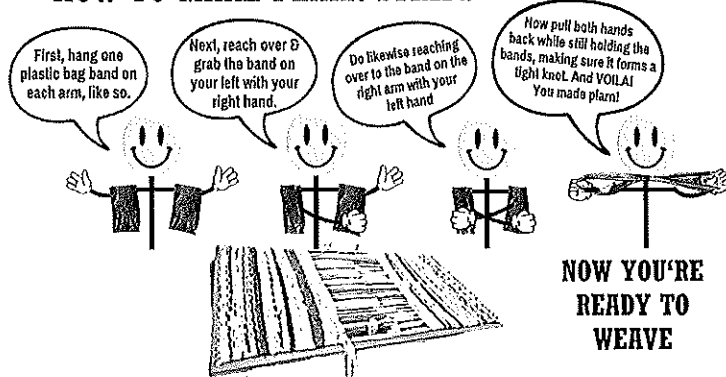
## Thank You

The help that we got from the church for this meal is so greatly appreciated. I sincerely think Donna would be so pleased with the fellowship that everyone showed for her funeral. Having a wonderful meal that accommodated all of their friends and family helped Donna's family get through the day.

-Carrie Conlin, Debbie Deakin, Sherry Cunningham, and Lisa Keller



### HOW TO MAKE PLARN STRIPS



Laurie Osborne 03/03

Kristine White 03/03

Tom Hirschinger 03/09

David Daley 03/10

Jordan Hernandez 03/13

Michelle Hirschinger 03/14

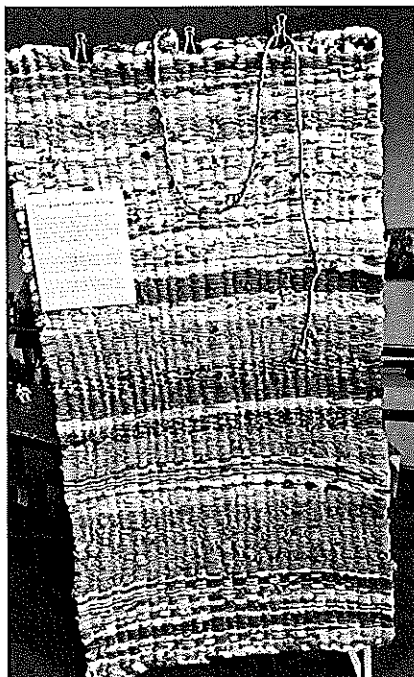
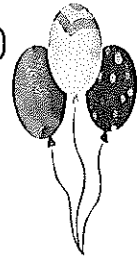
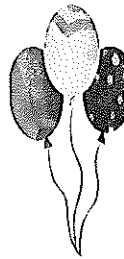
Angela Miller 03/15

Kallen Barker 03/17

Sam Parkinson 03/18

Priscilla Austin 03/20

Kyler Schutz 03/27



## HELP MAKE SLEEPING MATS FOR THE HOMELESS!

WE ARE MAKING PLASTIC SLEEPING MATS THAT WILL BE DELIVERED TO THE UNITED METHODIST'S MIDWEST MISSION DISTRIBUTION CENTER IN ILLINOIS. THE MWDC WILL THEN DISTRIBUTE THEM WORLD WIDE TO THOSE IN NEED. THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO HELP:

- BRING YOUR CLEAN PLASTIC BAGS TO THE CHURCH. COLLECTION BARRELS ARE JUST INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE PARKINGLOT ENTRANCE.
- BRING THEM WHOLE OR PRECUT THEM INTO TWO PLASTIC BANDS.
- TAKE TWO BANDS OF PLASTIC AND MAKE THEM INTO PLARN STRIPS.
- WEAVE THE PLARN STRIPS INTO THE ONGOING SLEEPING MAT.

BE AN ACTIVE PART OF THIS NEW MINISTRY BY CHALLENGING YOURSELF TO PARTICIPATE IN THE WHOLE PROCESS OF CREATING THESE MATS.



I have been meeting with three members of St. Johns in ways to recycle items that our current weekly recycle bins will not accept.

We will be collecting and take what we have received on March 15 to St. Johns. That will later be taken to a Reynolds Recycle in Madison

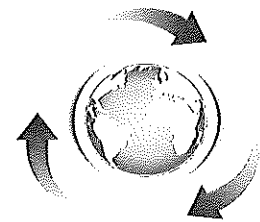
Challenge – One Way to Care for Creation this Month: Recycle your Styrofoam waste!

The biggest item not to be recycled is our Styrofoam that we end up with when we purchase different products for our personnel use. Medical coolers that have all labels removed. As well as products like egg cartons, cups, plates and other packaging from food products. Needs to be clean for recycling

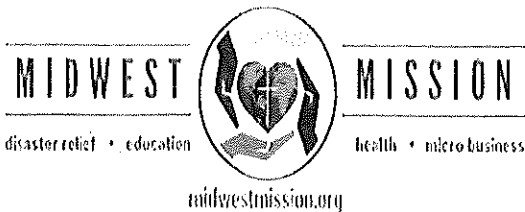
Styrofoam used in building insulation 4x8x whatever the thickness you choose that are free of adhesive caulk, nails, screws anything that is foreign to the product. All these products can be recycled and be made into composite materials for the building trade.

Thank you for your commitment to helping to stop the use of landfills for the storage of a product that can be recycled into useful products.

Howard Brantmeyer



*Reedsburg United Methodist Church*  
www.reedsburgunitedmethodistchurch.org



**STUDENT KIT SHOPPING LIST**

- 3 Notebooks - 1 Subject spiral 8" x 10 1/2"
- 1 Ruler - 12" long with metric
- 6 Pencils - unsharpened
- 1 Pencil Sharpener
- 1 Pencil Eraser - 2" or larger
- 1 Box of 12 Colored Pencils
- 1 Box of 24 Crayons
- 1 Pair of Student Scissors
- 1 Handmade One-Handled Bag



(pattern at [midwestmission.org/patterns](http://midwestmission.org/patterns))

Currently we have 20 volunteers signed up for mission trip and 26 spots available maximum



**Mission Trip 2025**

Adults and Youth age 11 and up are invited to a mission trip at Midwest Mission Distribution Center, near Springfield, IL.

Saturday, June 28-Wednesday, July 2, 2025

Dorm rooms sleeping 2-4 people & RV sites are available.

There will be time for mission work, worship, fellowship, and even some sightseeing in nearby Springfield.

Get the dates reserved on your calendar.

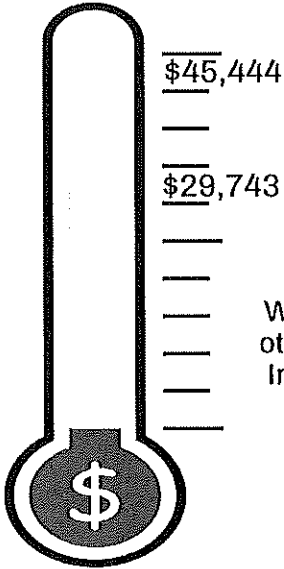
Sign up at the Welcome Center.

For more information see John Deitrich, Mary Beth Shear, or call the office, at 608-524-3913

**FYI** ***KWIK TRIP***

**Scrip Cards**  
\$10, \$20, \$25, \$50 OR \$100 VALUES  
Stop by the Office to Purchase

# FUNDRAISING IDEAS FOR BOILERS & BEYOND



We have a lot of great fundraising ideas floating around for the boilers, AC, and other general budgetary needs. But we need someone to help implement them. Interested? Talk to one of the Servant Leadership Board members and clergy:

John Deitrich  
Pat Jaquish  
Cheri Rhinehart

Kathie Bodmer  
Tina Straw  
Becky Knoll

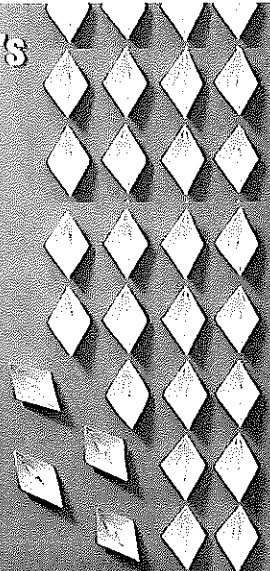
Ann Deitrich  
Ellen Penshorn  
Mason Siedschlag

Pastor Vicki Brantmeyer or Deacon Mary Beth Shear

Servant Leadership Board's next meeting is...  
**March 17**  
**6:30PM**  
**at the Well**

**COME JOIN US!**

NOTE: SLB meetings are open to the anyone, except when dealing with staff sensitive matters.



## Looking for prayer support?

- Text Pastor Vicki directly at 608-239-9739
  - Email your prayer to the Prayer Angel\*, RUMprayer@gmail.com
  - Request your prayer be shared with the Electronic Prayer Chain\*.
  - Join the Reedsburg United Methodist Church Connection Group through Facebook
- \* Contact the office if you would like to be part of the Electronic Prayer Chain or a Prayer Angel

## Opportunities to Worship



Live Sunday service at 9:00 am  
Reedsburg TV station 11.1,  
3:30 on Tuesdays.

Sunday Afternoons on YouTube Channel  
Reedsburg Methodist@7032

Sermon manuscripts are available electronically on our website or call the church office to request a hard copy.

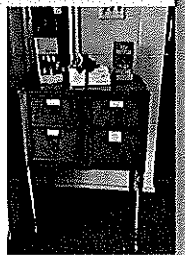
Pastor Vicki preaches at the Senior Life Center on the third Monday of every month. You are welcome to join her and Shirley in the community room.



## Receipts

Viking Village Foods offers the church a rebate for any receipts turned in to their store. If you shop Viking Village, please drop your receipts in the donation box located outside the church's 3rd Street entrance; or in the upper right hand drawer of the dresser just inside the same church entrance; or drop them in the offering basket on Sundays.

**THANK YOU!**



## Servant Leadership Board Synopsis

6:30 February 17, 2025 -Pastor Vicki Brantmeyer, John Deitrich, Mary Beth Shear, Ann Deitrich,  
Pat Jaquish, Cheri Rhinehart, Ellen Peshorn, Becky Knull, Mason Siedschlag.

>Opening prayer-Mason

>Devotion – Pastor Vicki

>Teaching moment- John - We Arent Broke Chapters 8 and 9 Book Discussion

Chapter 8 - So much property - Are we using the space we have that is unused? We are renting part of the Fellowship Hall to the ADRC for Meals On Wheels - so we have made a good start on utilizing unused space Could we do more - for instance with the church property?

Chapter 9 - Barriers that hold us back- The main message in chapter 9 was to find ways to use our space as an impact investment, to not only do good but to bring in income as well. The Meals on Wheels lease does that. Lack of visibility in the community. John talked about being visible in the community and again Meals on Wheels will bring others in as well as the other dinner ideas shared.

>Reports: Kent Peshorn reported on the Farm To Table Dinner idea he is working on - still a work in progress as details are worked out.

Mary Beth Deacon/Servant Coordinator Ideas for a sausage gravy biscuit dinner were discussed - possible date is April 5th. Money earned would possibly be used for camp scholarships for 2 youth from Boys and Girls Club.

Finance: discussion on P&L report that was sent by email previously. We could have a report monthly to keep board members more informed and updated.

Trustee: Tina reported the ongoing goals were on schedule.

She spoke relating our ministry goals to the \$15,000.00 Ministry Enrichment Grant that has been applied for and looking into a new Ministry Grant.

Bathroom is continuing to progress. Meals on Wheels room has been redone and cleaned. Thanks Tina, Howard, Ellen, Cindy, and Pat for your hard work!

Tina is working on grants - we are onboard with an enrichment grant and looking into a new ministry grant (Meals on Wheels) which both would add welcome funds to our budget.

Ann reported on the Reconciliation Ministry meetings - we are making good progress looking into guidance from the Leadership Network and possibly the Baraboo church. We have 6 members and would like to have more people join this initiative as we work towards becoming an inclusive welcoming community. Next meeting is 3-2-25 after church. suggestions for further fundraising ideas. During coffee hour in the Well, a conversation took place that did not reflect the love and grace of Christ that we seek to embody as a church. Let us strive to ensure that our fellowship spaces remain places where dialogue builds understanding and unity, rather than division. Comments wishing harm, do not align with the teachings of Jesus.

Pastor Vicki- general discussion on her report sent by email to members. Members discussed their Primary Leadership Components Assessments. These assessments help us know where our gifts lie. We discussed the importance of having a mix of Spiritual Shepards, Vision Criers, and System Task Organizers as we serve.

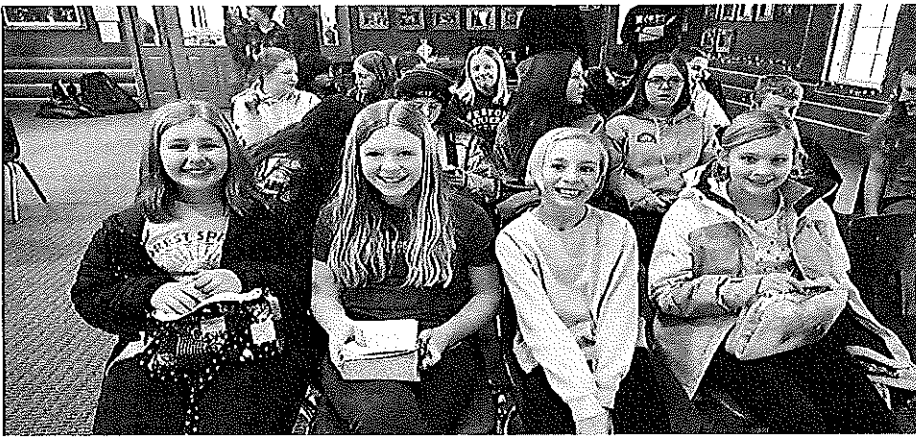
The next free community Movie offerings will be on Sunday, February 2 and Sunday March 2 at 10:30am in our youth room. Lunch will be provided.

>>Next meeting: Next meeting March 16th at 6:30

The Servant Leadership Board meetings are open meetings and we invite all to attend.

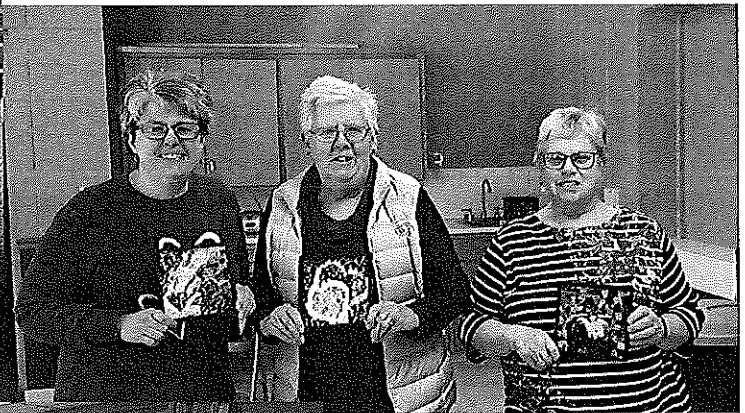
Learning Time - Tina Chapter 10

Closing Prayer - Ann



## Come to Youth Group!

Youth group is for all school age children (grades K-12). We serve a meal at 6 pm on Wednesday evenings throughout the School Year, following the meal we have fellowship and fun. Please invite your friends!! Contact Michelle Siedschlag (608) 345-5649 with any questions.



Mosaic fun with  
 artist  
 Billie Jo  
 Scharfenberg